

Rocket Spirituality

1 Kings 1-11

Solomon's Story:

How to live like a rocket:

- Live off of your past experiences with God.
- Believe you know too much to fall.
- Hold fast to anything other than God.

How to avoid the arc:

- Above all else, guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life.

Getting Started: Who is someone you respected as a leader that experienced great success personally, privately, and professionally yet experienced significant failure? Were you surprised? Why or why not? What do you think led to their downfall?

Digging In: Why and how did Solomon experience great blessing from God in terms of wisdom (1 Kgs 3:7-15, 28; 4:29-34; 5:7; 10:1-9, 23)? Read 1 Kgs 7-8. How did Solomon use his wisdom to bring worship to Yahweh? Why did God tell Israel He was so concerned about them worshipping Him alone (Ex 20:1-4; Dt 4:32-40; Jo 24:19-20; 2 Kgs 17:29-31; Isa 44:9-11; 45:22; Jer 10:10-12)? According to 1 Kings 11:1-13, how did Solomon fail? How was this directly against God's clear command in Dt 17:14-20 (see also 1 Kgs 10:26-28; 2 Chr 1:16)? What insight does Lev 18:21 & 20:1-5 give concerning the perversion of Solomon's worship late in life? How do you think this happened? How fast? Why do you think there is nothing written about Solomon practicing Dt 17:18-20?

Living It Out: Where have you experienced God's grace and success in walking with Him and in life? Take some time to give thanks and acknowledge that it is all a gift from Him. When have you discarded wisdom in the past and disobeyed God? What were the consequences? What do you think you could be holding on to that could turn your heart from God? [Questions to help: Where do your thoughts go when nothing else is demanding you attention? Where do you spend your money? What scenarios cause you to respond with explosive anger or deep despair? What tempts you to go against the direct commands of God? What people, things, gifts are pulling me away from God and his commands?] How will you guard your heart this week? (Proverbs 4:23)

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Reading Plan

For July 31 – September 3

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1 1 Samuel 16:1-23	2 1 Samuel 17:1-58	3 1 Samuel 18:1-30	4 1 Samuel 19:1-24	5 1 Samuel 20:1-42	6 1 Samuel 21:1-15
7	8 1 Samuel 24:1-22	9 1 Samuel 25:1-44	10 1 Samuel 26:1-25	11 1 Samuel 27:1-12	12 1 Samuel 30:1-31	13 1 Samuel 31:1-13
14	15 2 Samuel 1:1-27	16 2 Samuel 2:1-32	17 2 Samuel 5:1-25	18 2 Samuel 7:1-29	19 2 Samuel 11:1-27	20 2 Samuel 12:1-25
21	22 2 Chronicles 1:1-17	23 1 Kings 6:1-38	24 1 Kings 8:1-21	25 1 Kings 9:1-28	26 1 Kings 10:1-29	27 1 Kings 11:1-43
28	29 1 Kings 12:1-33	30 1 Kings 13:31-34	31 1 Kings 14:1-31	1 1 Kings 15:1-34	2 1 Kings 16:1-20	3 1 Kings 16:21-28

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